

Friend Newman :

2/16/56

Have you seen the new book "State Bank Notes of Michigan", price \$10.00, put out by Harold L. Bowen, 818 Lawrence Ave., Detroit, 2, Mich. He spent three days with us last fall and inspected every note we had. I think he has done a good job. There are reproductions of 90 notes. Do not think any of the dealers have them as yet. Thought you might be interested.

D. Barrett.

Mr. Ford.

Can you supply either  
of these SBN.

\*1 Southern Bank of Ga.  
Bainbridge Ga  
"Indian Stalking Deer"  
at R. Center

\*10 Central Bank of Tenn.  
Nashville  
"Reclining Lady & Eagle  
by Viaduct."

Wm D  
Newman -

W. Barrett

HELENA

ARKANSAS

COUNTY OF PHILLIPS

October 1, 1936

Mr. B. D. Barrett, Curator  
Father Flanagan's Boys Home  
Boys Town, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Barrett:

The material which I placed on loan in your museum has been there quite a while and I merely wish to remind you that it might be worth while to substitute material of someone else so as to keep the material changing.

Every now and then I try to put my hands on some of the items I have loaned you and then realize they are on exhibit.

If you wish sheets, one of the largest collections of sheets in the country is owned by Mr. Frank Sprinkle, Box 809, Bluefield, West Virginia, who, perhaps, may be very pleased to lend you these sheets. He has some very unusual ones. You may mention my name if you care to.

Most of my time has been spent in writing and the American Numismatic Society will put out a monograph this winter which I wrote on coinage of Colonial Virginia. I am enclosing a little article I previously wrote on the American Plantation Token.

There is no rush in returning any of this material but just a suggestion that when it is convenient for you, you might do so.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

EFB/etb

FOR HOMELESS ABANDONED BOYS REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CREED



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN  
ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"He ain't heavy, Father" ...he's my brother"

D. O. BARRETT - CURATOR  
PHILAMATIC CENTER

October 8, 1956

Mr. Eric P. Newman, Secretary  
Edison Brothers Stores Inc.  
400 Washington Avenue,  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Friend Newman:

Replying to your favor of October 1st, wish to say that we shall have your material started to you some time this week. It would be impossible for me to put into words our appreciation of the help you have given us. I only wish it were possible for you to visit us and see what has been done, all, of course, thru the kindness and helpfulness of FRIENDS.

You probably read of our receiving the Scruggs collection and this all needed remounting and perhaps you might think of this as a small job, but it is a stupendous one. The number of visitors is beginning to decrease and we hope to soon have a little more time to care for our own work. We are also considering doubling our present capacity.

Thanks very much for the article which will go into our files.

Sincerely,

D. O. Barrett

DOB:meh



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN  
ESTABLISHED 1917

# FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"Heavenly being, Father"

"He's m' brother"

D. O. BARRETT - CURATOR  
PHILA-MATIC CENTER

October 11, 1956.

Mr. Eric P. Newman,  
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear PhilaMatic Exhibitor No. 7 :

Your recent exhibit covered by our Receipt No. 219 went forward to you yesterday by Insured Railway Express. With it, you will find the Certificate of Appreciation covering this material. About all that we can do is to say THANKS. We had many comments on your material from visitors. Now, that you are already a REPEATER, you may send in any exhibit at any time and it will be placed immediately on display. Your gracious help has given us a boost several times when it was really needed. There were also included in your shipment several B.T. Times telling a little of the fine gift of over \$30,000.00 worth of stamps by Mr. J. H. Scruggs, of Birmingham, Ala.

All this extra material makes it desirable for us to secure more exhibition space and we hope that this can be enlarged about 100%, depending, of course, upon the amount of money available. We recently picked up one of the old parallel-line ruling machines, used in the days of lithographic stones. Also have quite a number of the engraved stones together with a small hand-operated press used for taking proof impressions.

Our stock of ALTERED Notes has been growing even if we do have to use photos in some instances. These are far better than having only a printed description as an identification. A collector in Michigan recently offered to send in his collection to photograph, or study, as needed.

Right now, the flow of visitors has greatly diminished and it is possible that we can, at last, get some of our work done. I certainly wish that it were possible for you to visit the Center. Will you not be up to Omaha around Christmas ? We are expecting Mr. Smedley, of Chicago for several days the latter part of the month and Mr. Baker, of Des Moines will probably visit us at the same time.

Again, please accept our sincere thanks and we trust that the material arrives in perfect order.

PhilaMatically Yours,

*D. O. Barrett*  
Curator.

Father Flanagan's Boys Home

BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

Boys Town PhilaMatic Center

Whereas MR. ERIC P. NEWMAN  
of ST. LOUIS, MO.

has graciously permitted to be displayed to the public a collection of  
C. S. A. CURRENCY--SHEETS  
for the edification and pleasure thereof at the Boys Town PhilaMatic  
Center and

Whereas this assistance and cooperation has permitted Father  
Flanagan's Boys Home to expand its activities and thus more faith-  
fully to fulfil the expectations of its founder, therefore

Be it Known that this certificate is an expression of appreciation  
to the said MR. ERIC P. NEWMAN  
and there is herewith conferred on the aforesaid the title of

PhilaMatic Exhibitor No. 7

and in testimony thereof will be found the signatures of the Director of  
the Home and the Curator of the PhilaMatic Center at Boys Town  
Nebraska this 25TH day of OCTOBER, 1956

C. Barrett  
CURATOR

Richard H. Weger  
DIRECTOR

"REPEATER"

FOR HOMELESS ABANDONED BOYS REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CREED



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN  
ESTABLISHED 1917

# FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR

BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"He ain't heavy, Father"

"... he's m' brother"

D. O. BARRETT - CURATOR  
PHILAMATIC CENTER

April 15, 1961

PLEASE

Note Change of Address

from

(old)

Dwight O. Barrett  
Boys Town PhilaMatic Center  
Boys Town, Nebraska

to

(new mail)

Dwight (or D.) O. Barrett  
Post Office Box 1321  
Omaha 1, Nebraska

Residence:  
Apartment 205  
Logan Hotel  
Omaha 2, Nebraska

*DOB Barrett*



Monsignor Nicholas H. Wegner, Director  
cordially invites you to the  
Open House of  
The Boys Town Philanthropic Center  
Thursday, August 9, 1962  
7:00 p. m.

Refreshments will be served

April 11, 1963

Philatelic Center  
Boys Town  
Boys Town, Nebraska

Gentlemen:

If Mr. Barrett is at Boys Town now this letter is for him; otherwise I will appreciate an answer from any of you.

I have never had the opportunity of visiting Boys Town and seeing your fine collection and I believe I was one of the first exhibitors.

I am going to be in Omaha within a week or two and merely wanted to know whether the Museum was open in the evening, and whether it is open on Sunday. I wanted to plan my visit so as to have a maximum amount of time to examine the material as well as to visit with Mr. Barrett if he is there.

Would you be nice enough to let me hear from you promptly in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



FOR HOMELESS ABANDONED BOYS REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CREED



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN  
ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR

BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"He ain't heavy, Father"

"... he's my brother"

PHILAMATIC CENTER  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

April 15, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

Your letter was received and am sorry to state Mr. D. O. Barrett only comes out about once a week for a visit. He seems to have lost all interest in numismatics. His memory is not the best anymore so he just quit. He lives downtown where he is close to everything.

Yes, according to our records you were one of the first exhibitors to help us get started for which we are very grateful. It sure was a help to have so many friends to help us get started.

Glad to hear you will be in Omaha and will look forward to your visit. Now you just let me know when you can visit us and we will open it for you. We are open week days from 8 to 4 and on Sundays and Holidays from 9 to 4:30. We are not open evenings but open up when we have someone interested in seeing it. Evenings probably would be the best as there would not be anyone around. This time of the year we have a lot of school groups visiting and they make a lot of noise. You just let me know when you will arrive and I will arrange any evening to show you the Center. Mr. Minkus visited us one evening and was surprised to find such a collection located here.

Will also try to arrange a meeting with D. O. Barrett. The only thing is he won't go out at night. This can be taken care of when you arrive.

Until we meet, I remain,

PhilaMatically yours,

W. L. Culkin  
Curator

WLC:KB

April 23, 1963

Mr. W. L. Culkin  
Boys Town  
Boys Town, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Culkin:

Your very friendly letter of April 15, 1963 is appreciated and I am sorry Mr. D. O. Barrett is aging.

I will try to come out to Boys Town Sunday, April 28. I note that you are open during the day and I will try to avoid involving you with an evening visit.

Thank you for your kindness.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Dear D. O:

Your question concerning the \$1.00 Government Stock Bank Notes is most interesting.

The following observations are made from about 50 of these \$1 and \$2 notes which George Paxson and I have in our collection.

1. On about half of the 1's the upper left denomination die is very weak.
2. The rest of them (including a complete sheet) have an entirely different die. The numeral is quite different.
3. The top of the State Treasurer's Seal was weakened and partly covered with the new die.

It looks as though this was a repair job to the plate, carelessly done, and considerable pressure was applied. Both varieties are found, used and unused, with authentic signatures, and are doubtless O.K.

Have seen at least 25 2's, which were all identical, signed and unsigned, and believe they are genuine. One sheet (the only one known) has three Type 2 1's and a 2.

Sincerely yours,

Signed: Harold L. Bowen

\$5.00 Government Stock Bank, Ann Arbor

Unauthorized note from an unfinished plate, stolen from the engravers. See "State Bank Notes of Michigan", page 31. This note has the following peculiarities.

1. No check letter.
2. No legend around portrait.
3. No "THE" before title.
4. Printed date June 1st, 1852.
5. The word "Register" after left hand signature.

All legitimate 5's are dated September 1st, 1850, and have check letter, legend and "THR".

All legitimate notes of this bank have the words "State Treasurer" or "State Treas.r" and "Pres.t" under signatures. If signed, the left hand signature must be that of J. C. Bailey.

All notes on sheet \$1.00-DEF, \$2.00-B have a pledge between signatures. See cut, page 100. All other notes have Quail.

The words "State of Michigan" are rather crude on most Government Stock Bank notes, and may have been done by a student engraver.

Harold L. Bowen

# PHILAMATIC CENTER RECEIPT

Father Flanagan's Boys' Home  
Boys Town, Nebraska

No

560

The PHILAMATIC CENTER acknowledges receipt of the following material Donated  
by Eric P. Newman 446 Washington Ave. St. Louis 2 Mo

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	OWNER'S VALUATION
	Unused Blocks of United States	
	Postage Due Stamps	
	No 78-1800	189-12 <sup>+</sup>
	179-20 <sup>+</sup>	190-16 <sup>+</sup>
	180-12 <sup>+</sup>	191-20 <sup>+</sup>
	181-12 <sup>+</sup>	192-24 <sup>+</sup>
	182-20 <sup>+</sup>	193-32 <sup>+</sup>
	183-28 <sup>+</sup>	194-40 <sup>+</sup>
	184-56 <sup>+</sup>	195-40 <sup>+</sup>
	185-180	196-48 <sup>+</sup>
	186-360	197-60 <sup>+</sup>
	187-620	198-180
		1800-5.60
	<i>J. Flanagan</i>	1801-27.40
	Total	\$67.80

PHILAMATIC CENTER will exhibit this material for \_\_\_\_\_ and  
will return same shortly thereafter, or at any time demanded by the owner. Such ma-  
terial will be covered by a blanket insurance policy while in the custody of the  
PHILAMATIC CENTER.

May 9 1963

DATE

*Wm. L. Sullivan*

CURATOR



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN

ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR

BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"He ain't heavy, Father

... he's m' brother"

PHILAMATIC CENTER  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

May 3, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
Edison Bros. Stores, Inc.  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

In regards to the \$5. note on the Government Stock Bank at Ann Arbor, Michigan, I found that the vignette is one of Zachary Taylor. My source was Muscalus "State Bank Notes", published by Wayne Raymond. Also, Russell came up with a titled vignette that matches.

A lot of confusion exists in relation to these notes of the Government Stock Bank. Some have a legend around the Taylor vignette, some do not. Some have two quail at bottom center and some do not. Mr. Barrett studied them extensively but I do not believe he solved the problem to his own complete satisfaction. I have enclosed copies of a couple of letters from Bowen on the subject.

I am enclosing one of your notes which was left on the scratch pad and I plan to send you those beat up colonials, perhaps next week.

Enjoyed your visit, hope you can come again soon.

Sincerely,

Melvin D. Stark  
Asst. Curator

MDS:KB



ANS

Museum Notes (2-9)

Proceedings 1946

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# 112-146

May 3, 1963

Dear Mr. Stark:

The initials "I.S." are not in Wood's Monograph on the counter-stamps of the West Indies.

The counterstamp may be a Hacienda token, one stiver, or Isle of Saintes (Guadeloupe).

*From the desk of*  
ERIC P. NEWMAN

FOR HOMELESS ABANDONED BOYS REGARDLESS OF RACE OR CREED



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN

ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR

BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

PHILAMATIC CENTER  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

May 9, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

It was a great honor and pleasure to have you visit the Phila-Matic Center, we are only hoping this is the first of many visits to the Center. We learned many new interesting things from your visit.

Enclosed you will find a receipt for the donation of unused postage dues in blocks which will be added to our collection. These are priced according to Stanley Gibbons 4th edition of 1962.

Next time you visit I would like to have you meet Msgr. N. H. Wegner who made this all possible here at the Center. It would help if you wrote him of your visit. This way he would know what people think of it.

Hope you have luck in getting proofs off the plate we loaned you. We would like to repay some of the people who have given us proofs of their plates.

We are always ready to loan books to the collectors from our library when we know they are truly interested.

Until we have the pleasure of another visit, I remain,

PhilaMatically yours,

*Wm L Culkin*  
W. L. Culkin  
Curator

WLC:KB  
Encl. Receipt

June 28, 1963

Mr. Wren L. Culkin, Curator  
Father Flanagan's Boys' Home  
Boys Town, Nebraska

Dear Wren:

This is a report on the copper plate. After visiting six engravers they told me that the only people capable of doing this kind of work were buried in the cemetery and that there was no press in the City of St. Louis capable of doing it. As a desperate measure I called up the Art Museum and asked if they knew anyone who could do the work. They told me to go to Washington University and inquire of the art instructor. In the basement of the art instructor's home he has an appropriate press. We made one print together, which I have, and it is lovely.

I ordered rag paper and the professor said there would be some delay. He is now teaching art at Notre Dame University, for the summer, and in the fall will complete the work.

I just wanted you to know that the mission is being accomplished. It is really a complex process. The paper must be moistened, the ink rubbed into the plate, the plate carefully wiped off, the impression made, and then the whole process repeated. Wiping the ink in and wiping it off is a difficult problem and tedious.

My very best wishes for a pleasant and busy summer.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 31, 1963

Dear Mr. Newman:

Finally got those Colonial  
together & they are enclosed.  
There are a few other tid-bits  
along with them.

Hope you have fun going  
thru them and also hope  
you can classify some of  
the others. Best regards.

Mel Stark  
4124 No 62 St.  
Omaha 4, Neb



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN

ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR

BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"He ain't heavy, Father

... he's my brother"

PHILAMATIC CENTER  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

June 25, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.  
1400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2 Missouri

Dear Mr. Newman:

I received your letter of the 12th and it is nice to know you enjoyed your visit here. We enjoyed having you and hope you can come again soon.

Sorry, if I gave the wrong impression on the Colonial coins. I think very highly of them but have no reference material. Thanks for classifying them for me. It would please me very much if you would keep the George III halfpence and if you want to exchange the New Jersey piece I will reimburse you for the difference.

Wren was glad to hear that you have someone to make the impressions from the copper plate. Sounds like quite a laborious process. He said you may send me a copy if you wish. I would like very much to have one.

I am enclosing a couple<sup>3</sup> of questionable coins and would like your opinion on them. You can return them in the box with the others. Some postage is enclosed.

I plan to go to the A.N.A. at Denver, perhaps I'll see you there if you attend.

Cordially,

*Mel*  
Mel Stark

MS:KB  
Encl.

Notre Dame, Indiana  
June 29, 1963

Dear Mr. Newman:

I'm so sorry to have waited so long to get in touch with you. The plate is safe and sound and I've taken a number of good impressions from it. These are yours free of charge, by the way. The reason I didn't contact you in St. Louis was because of my unholy number of chores prior to take-off. I rented my house for three months and this required a lot of cleaning up and rearranging, but among the chores was several sessions of printing. Some of them were not so hot - misses in certain spots - and so I hoped to hang on to the plate for a couple of more weeks and print some really good ones.

The bond paper from Graham is not good at all. It has no character. It's too thin and flimsy and is not sufficiently different from ordinary bond to be worth the effort. So I used Basingwerk, an English paper, much better than the Graham bond, and I hope you will be pleased with it. Although it's soft it has many of the features of vellum money papers. It's a shade less white than the bond but it prints well.

I arrived on the 19th and since then I've been up to my ears. I teach my specialty to 40 nuns, two priests, and three laymen. I'm not only the teacher but store as well. I'm ordering, buying, shopping, selling, as well as criticizing, advising, lecturing, and sharpening tools. They've gone through a hundred dollars worth of pine boards in one week and are hollering for more.

Meanwhile, I've had to remake the etching press. It's now in fairly good shape, and I'll print some more from the plate within the next few days. On Monday I'll mail you a small packet of the good prints I've gotten already. The plate is bound up in good cardboard ready for mailing. Should I send it to you or directly to Boys' Town?

Thanks for your forbearance. It's an interesting experience for me - printing from this plate - and I hope I haven't caused you anxiety as a result of delay.

Best wishes,

*Fred Becker*

Fred. G. Becker  
Department of Art  
Univ. of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN  
ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"He ain't heavy, Father"

"he's m' brother"

PHILAMATIC CENTER  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

July 1, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2 Missouri

Dear Eric:

Glad to have a report on the plate. I thought you would run into the same thing I did here in Omaha. I found a fellow who bought the old presses from the local engravers who now lives in Colorado and uses them for his own use but would not do any outside work.

So we can expect them this fall when he returns from Notre Dame. Well, we have waited this long so I think we can wait until then. Maybe we will again be honored with a visit from you again.

Yes, the process is quite a job as moist paper must be used to pick up the ink from the grooves in the plate. They use to wipe the plate with their hand in the old days but they now use a certain kind of wiping paper to do the same job.

We are still adding items to our collections from donations from visitors from all over the world. The government refused permission for us to buy the Tonga gold coins. Now I read in the stamp papers they are printing stamps on gold foil or some metallic paper like the coins. I will secure these as they don't have any law as yet against buying stamps other than Russia so far. Tonga is falling from favor among the stamp collectors from some of the things they have pulled in the past few years. The official stamp will be 15 Tonga shillings which makes it a racket.

More luck to you on the plate. Drop in whenever you are around this part of the country.

Philamatically yours,

*Wren*  
W. L. Culkin  
Curator

WLC:KB



July 1, 1963

Mr. Mel Stark  
4124 No. 62nd Street  
Omaha 4, Nebraska

Dear Mel:

Your letter of June 25, 1963 was most appreciated and I am returning all of the coins except the George III 1772 halfpenny, which you said I could have, and for which I have substituted a British Evasion halfpenny since you have none of that type.

For the virtually unreadable New Jersey, I have substituted a Vermont piece as I see you have no Vermont at all.

As to the 1957D cent, I do not believe that the lamination split was caused by letters. I think a gear ran over the copper before the sheet was rolled and that these are the marks of the gear.

The 1943P nickel is plated over copper and looks like silver plated over copper. The plating was done before the striking. I imagine this is from counterfeit dies. Perhaps the only hope of it being a rarity is if the government experimented with nickels made with silver plating over copper.

The 1867 nickel is certainly unusual in the double stamping of part of the date. I imagine it is quite scarce.

Unfortunately, I do not believe I can attend the Denver convention but I hope all of you go and have a great time.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

July 3, 1963

Mr. Fred G. Becker  
Department of Art  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana

Dear Mr. Becker:

There is no panic about returning the copper plate and you may feel free to send it directly to Mr. Wren Culkin, Philamatic Center, Boys Town, Boys Town, Nebraska. Please keep a memorandum of the cost. However, before you do, please be sure that enough prints are run off so that there are plenty for everybody.

I am sorry the paper I furnished was not satisfactory as Graham Paper substituted this paper for paper I had selected. You will recall that the first sheet I did with you was excellent. I hope your paper has no water marks.

I am about to leave on my vacation so that another few weeks delay will not make any difference.

You sound as though you are enjoying your summer tremendously and that your students are entirely different from those you were used to.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb



THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN  
ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

PHILAMATIC CENTER  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

September 13, 1963

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
400 Washington Avenue  
St. Louis 2 Missouri

Dear Eric:

We have been helping Federal Brand Enterprises on their catalogue of uncut sheets and they wish pictures. Now we have them of your collection mostly from the state of Wisconsin and was wondering if it would be alright with you to supply them a print from our file? I will not send them without your permission. I told them they would have to show credit to you for the photos I supplied them of your collection. Let us know.

How is the print from the plate coming? Smedley had one done in Chicago. Might find out from him. He had his in Green Ink so you could tell them.

Busy with Federal's work but drop a line when you have time.

Philamatically yours,  
*W. L. Culkan*  
W. L. Culkan  
Curator

WLC:KB

# Facts About Boys Town

## BOYS TOWN:

A home and school for homeless, abandoned, neglected and underprivileged boys, regardless of race, color and creed.

## HOW BOYS TOWN WAS STARTED:

Boys Town was founded by the late Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward J. Flanagan, better known throughout the world as Father Flanagan of Boys Town, on December 10, 1917, with a borrowed \$90 to pay the first month's rent on a building at 25th and Dodge Streets in Omaha. The Home was started with five boys, three from the juvenile court and two homeless newsboys. In a short time the quarters were crowded, and the Home was moved to the German-American Club on South 13th Street, which stood vacant as a result of the war. Here 150 boys could be cared for, but soon quarters became crowded again, and Father Flanagan decided that his next move would be the last, so he purchased the 160-acre Overlook Farm, 10 miles west of Omaha, where the boys would live in a more healthful environment, and where the Home could expand as the need required and finances permitted. From this humble beginning, Boys Town has grown until today it comprises 1,500 acres, of which 900 are under cultivation, and more than 50 buildings.

## DIRECTOR:

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Nicholas H. Wegner, P. A., S. T. D., J. C. L., became Director of Boys Town September 15, 1948, succeeding the late and beloved Father Flanagan, Boys Town founder, who died in Berlin, Germany, on May 15, 1948, while engaged in a youth welfare mission for the United States Government.

Father Wegner was born in Humphrey, Nebraska, July 6, 1898. He attended high school and college at St. Joseph Seminary, Teutopolis, Ill., studying philosophy and theology at St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., and the Gregorian University at Rome, and Church Law at the Catholic University of America at Washington, D. C. He was ordained a priest on March 7, 1925, in Rome, and he was assigned as assistant pastor at St. Cecilia's Cathedral in Omaha on September 1, 1925.

Father Wegner's first administrative post was as Assistant Chancellor of the Omaha Archdiocese in 1929. He was promoted to the Chancellorship in 1939 and held that position until he was named director of Father Flanagan's Boys' Home in 1948. In 1944 he was honored by Pope Pius XII by being named a Domestic Prelate and invested with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor. On September 5, 1959, he was elevated to the dignity of Protonotary Apostolic by Pope John XXIII, and January 19, 1960, he was named Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Omaha.

In addition to his office as Chancellor, Father Wegner served as director of St. James Orphanage in Omaha for 12 years. He was a close friend of the late Father Flanagan and was associated with him on the Board of Diocesan Consultors for many years. Upon the death of Archbishop James H. Ryan in November, 1947, Father Wegner was Administrator of the Omaha Archdiocese until the installation of Archbishop Gerald T. Bergan.

In addition to his wide administrative experience, Father Wegner is a boy's man. In his youth he turned down two major league baseball contracts to study for the priesthood. As a boy he engaged in all sports.

#### PRESENT LOCATION:

Moved to present location, 10 miles west of Omaha, on U. S. Highways No. 6 and 30-A, on October 17, 1921.

#### AGE OF BOYS:

Boys are accepted between the ages of 10 and 16. Boys can remain until they have completed their high school education.

#### NUMBER CARED FOR:

More than 9,000 boys have called Boys Town their home. One thousand Boys Town graduates saw service during World War II, and 40 gave their lives for their country. Several hundred graduates saw service during the Korean War, and four lost their lives in military service.

#### PRESENT FACILITIES:

Boys Town has facilities for nine hundred boys, 500 of high school age, and 400 of grade school age.

#### BUILDING FACILITIES:

*Grade School Section:* Grade school building, gymnasium, dining hall, four apartment buildings, each having four apartments, chapel, dental and medical center, and orientation center.

*High School Section:* Modern high school building to accomodate 500 students, trade school building, dining hall and recreation center, auditorium, administration and welfare building, 25 cottages to house 20 boys each, reception center, field house and visitors' center.

*Farm:* Dairy barns, pasteurizing building, root cellar, farm residences, miscellaneous storage barns, 900 acres of farm land, including a 60-acre vegetable garden.

#### BIOGRAPHY OF FATHER FLANAGAN:

Born July 13, 1886, Roscommon, Ireland; son of John and Honora (Larkin) Flanagan. Educated: Summerhill College, Sligo, Ireland; Mt. St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md., A. B. 1906, M. A. 1908; St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie, N. Y., 1906-07; Gregorian University, Rome, Italy, 1907-08; Jesuit University, Innsbruck, Austria, 1909-12; ordained priest, July 26, 1912, at Innsbruck. Honorary Degrees: Mt. St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md., LL. D., 1938; St. Benedict's College, Atkinson, Kansas, LL. D., May 31, 1939; Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, LL. D., June 5, 1941. Began career as Catholic Priest, 1912. Served as Assistant Pastor, St. Patrick's Church, O'Neill, Nebraska, until March, 1913. Assistant Pastor, St. Patrick's Church, Omaha, Nebraska, until spring of 1916. Assistant Pastor, St. Philomena's Church, Omaha, Nebraska, until December 10, 1917. Started Workingmen's Hotel, Omaha, in 1914. Founded Father Flanagan's Boys' Home, December 10, 1917. Director, December 10, 1917, to May 15, 1948.

Pope Pius XI on October 23, 1937, named him a Domestic Prelate with the title of Right Reverend Monsignor.

The motion picture "BOYS TOWN" was made to portray the work of Father Flanagan and his Boys Town in 1938. Second Boys Town film, "MEN OF BOYS TOWN," produced in 1941. Helped establish Boy Scout movement in Omaha. President of the Omaha Welfare Board for 10 years. Received the first Humanitarian award from Variety Clubs of America in

1939. Served as National Chaplain of American War Dads, 1945. Named on national panel for the study of juvenile delinquency problems by U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark, February 2, 1946. Appointed member of Naval Civilian Committee by Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal, April 7, 1947. Member of Executive board of Covered Wagon Council of Boy Scouts of America, also National Council Representative.

In 1947 he made a trip to Japan and Korea to study child welfare problems at the invitation of General Douglas MacArthur and the U. S. War Department.

Left for Austria and Germany to perform a similar mission in the spring of 1948. Died, Berlin, Germany, May 15, 1948.

#### FATHER FLANAGAN'S FINAL RESTING PLACE:

The body of Father Flanagan was returned from Berlin to Salina, Kansas, by Army B-29. There it was transferred to an Army C-47 which returned the body to Omaha, and then, on to Boys Town for burial. Funeral services for the Boys Town Founder were held in the Dowd Memorial Chapel. The sarcophagus is sealed with a marble slab bearing the inscription:

FATHER FLANAGAN - FOUNDER OF BOYS TOWN  
LOVER OF CHRIST AND MAN  
July 13, 1886 - May 15, 1948

#### HOW BOYS TOWN IS SUPPORTED:

Boys Town is supported entirely by voluntary contributions from people who believe in Father Flanagan's philosophy that "*THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A BAD BOY.*" Boys Town has never received any support from any church, or local, state or federal agency.

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME:

The Board of Trustees is interdenominational and consists of ten members. "Father Flanagan's Boys' Home, Boys Town, Nebraska," is the legal name of the community. Boys Town has its own post office, and you will find Boys Town, Nebraska, listed in your postal directory.

#### RELIGIOUS TRAINING:

Boys Town is non-sectarian. All boys are required to attend religious services. Catholic boys attend their services, and services for non-Catholic boys are conducted by a Protestant minister. Both services are held simultaneously.

#### SCHOOL SYSTEM:

The school system begins with the 5th grade and continues through four years of high school. It is fully accredited by the State of Nebraska. The school is conducted by lay teachers, both men and women. In addition to the academic curriculum, Boys Town has an extensive vocational training program, with ceramics, printing, machine shop, auto mechanics, shoe rebuilding, baking, tailoring, vocational agriculture, wood shop, sheet metal and heating and air conditioning, arboriculture, and radio and electronics among the trades taught.

The Boys Town high school is a member of the Nebraska School Activities Association, and participates in activities of the association's program, and also is a member of the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges.

## **SELF-GOVERNMENT PROGRAM:**

The Boys Town self-government program includes a mayor, four councilmen and twenty-five commissioners, elected for a six-month term from among the boys, by the boys themselves. Duties of city officials include actual administration of the student government program. A similar self-government program, with a junior mayor, councilmen and commissioners, is followed in the grade school section. In addition, both the grade and high schools have student government programs.

## **BOYS TOWN TIMES:**

The Boys Town Times is published the second Friday of each month by Father Flanagan's Boys' Home. It is a mirror of the activities of Boys Town citizens. Subscription rates are \$3.00 per year.

## **WHERE BOYS COME FROM:**

Boys come from every state of the United States and the territorial possessions of the United States.

## **ATHLETICS:**

A comprehensive grade and high school athletic and intramural recreation program is directed by Maurice H. "Skip" Palrang, athletic director and head coach. Football teams have played from coast to coast. Other interscholastic sports in which Boys Town high school teams participate are basket ball, baseball, track, wrestling, swimming and tennis.

## **WELFARE DEPARTMENT:**

Father Flanagan's Boys' Home maintains a professional welfare staff, with qualified social workers.

## **VISITORS:**

Visitors are always welcome to visit Boys Town to inspect our facilities. Visitors are requested to register at the Visitors' Center, which is located at the main entrance to Father Flanagan's Boys' Home, just beyond the Boys Town pylon. Visiting hours are from 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. on week days, and from 9:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. on Sundays.

## **BOYS TOWN BAND:**

A fifty-piece concert band, a 15-piece concert orchestra, and a 15-piece Pep band have appeared throughout the Midwest.

## **BOYS TOWN CHOIR:**

The Boys Town Choir of 50 voices made a concert tour of the Midwest and East in 1946. Since that time, the Choir makes an annual concert tour which has taken the choristers into most of the principal music halls of the United States, as well as many Canadian cities, and a concert tour of Cuba. In addition to the Concert Choir, 150 other Boys Town singers are members of the chancel and repertoire choirs.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

In addition to the grade and high school extra-curricular activities and the Boys Town recreation program, many special programs are maintained to provide leisure-time opportunities for all Boys Town citizens. These include a Boy Scout and Explorer program consisting of eight units, stamp club, a comprehensive 4-H Club program for boys interested in agriculture, model airplane club, and other hobby and craft activities.





THE ORIGINAL BOYS TOWN

ESTABLISHED 1917

## FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME

FATHER NICHOLAS H. WEGNER, DIRECTOR

BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

"He ain't heavy, Father

... he's my brother"

PHILAMATIC CENTER  
BOYS TOWN, NEBRASKA

March 2, 1964

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Eric:

Hurray the sheets arrived and are very beautiful job of engraving as this plate was old and probably worn. Tell your friend that he will be picked up for counterfeiting if he can do this good a job.

Now I can send Dillistin as he sent us a copy of a plate that he had. Also one to Glenn Smedley as he had a plate and sent us a copy from his plate. This will kind of even things up with the above.

Since you were here last time we have done some remodeling and now have a little more space to show things which we can not place in a frame.

Will be awaiting another visit from you. I remain,

Philamatically yours

*Wren L. Culkin*

Wren L. Culkin  
Curator

WLC/HS





"Blessed are they that mourn, for  
they shall be comforted"

—*St. Matthew 5*



May Jesus have mercy on the soul of

DWIGHT O. BARRETT

BORN FEBRUARY 25, 1884

DIED DECEMBER 10, 1964

May the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. Amen.

---

JOHN A. GENTLEMAN MORTUARY

10/10

file under Boy's Town

5/4/88

Kyle MacMillan:

Omaha World Herald

called & asked about

Controversy on Boy's Town matter

I told him

I knew Ch. Barrett. I examined collection

long ago

Mel Stank mentioned my name to reporter

He retired from museum

Ivan Sawyer is current curator

Marvin Schenkman of Encino, Cal.

but it for \$75,000<sup>00</sup>

Some of his pieces showed up at Central States.

I told him <sup>some</sup> pieces were offered at N.Y. before that.

Ed